CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

receiving an ~~indicator~~ event trigger indicating that a notification message is to be delivered to a plurality of recipients, wherein the event trigger is associated with the notification message and a notification list including the plurality of recipients;

saving a file representing the notification message associated with the event trigger;

identifying contact information associated with each of the plurality of recipients;

initiating outbound packetized calls to more than one of the plurality of recipients;

determining whether a first recipient of the plurality of recipients answers a first call associated with the outbound packetized calls, the first call placed to a first telephone address included in the contact information associated with the first recipient;

in response to determining that the first recipient answered the first call, connecting the first call to a multicast server to deliver the notification message during the first call via the multicast server; and

in response to determining that the first recipient did not answer the first call[[,]]:

initiating a second call to a second telephone address included in the contact information associated with the first recipient; and

initiating an email message to an electronic mail address included in the contact information associated with the first recipient, wherein the email message includes the notification message.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a connection supporting the first call comprises a twisted pair link, and wherein the method further comprises:

disconnecting from the first call; and

indicating successful delivery of the notification message to the first recipient.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising:

recognizing that customer premises equipment associated with the first call comprises specialized ring tone functionality; and

communicating a specialized incoming call signal to the customer premises equipment.

4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

maintaining a master list of users; and

in response to receiving the ~~indicator~~ event trigger, determining ~~a call~~ the notification list ~~that identifies~~ including the contact information associated with each of the plurality of recipients.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein each of the outbound packetized calls comprises a voice over internet protocol call.

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein a voice over internet protocol switch initiates the outbound packetized calls ~~substantially~~ simultaneously.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 5, wherein a voice over internet protocol switch initiates the outbound packetized calls to a first group of the plurality of recipients ~~substantially~~ simultaneously, wherein the voice over internet protocol switch is associated with a simultaneous connections limit, wherein the first group of the plurality of recipients comprises a number of recipients less than a threshold value of the simultaneous connections limit, wherein the threshold value is 75% of the simultaneous connections limit.

8-10. (Canceled).

11. (Currently amended) A notification system comprising:

a memory storing:

a notification list comprising a first group of subscribers of a plurality of subscribers to be notified in response to a first notification signal, wherein the plurality of subscribers ~~comprising~~ includes a first subscriber ~~and~~ having contact information associated with the first subscriber, and wherein the contact information associated with the first subscriber

~~comprising~~ comprises a voice over internet protocol telephone number and an electronic mail address; and

a first notification message associated with the first notification signal to be provided to the plurality of subscribers;

a network interface operable to:

receive the first notification signal; and

output a trigger signal in response to receipt of the first notification signal;

~~a first notification message associated with the first notification signal to be provided to the plurality of subscribers;~~

a voice over internet protocol switch responsive to the trigger signal and operable to:

support a plurality of simultaneous connections; and

initiate communications to a first group of subscribers of the plurality of subscribers, wherein the first group includes the first subscriber, and wherein a voice over internet protocol call is placed to the first subscriber at the voice over internet protocol telephone number;

a notification received mechanism operable to determine whether the first subscriber answered the voice over internet protocol call placed to the first subscriber, wherein the voice over internet protocol call is transferred to an internet protocol multicast server when the notification received mechanism determines that the first subscriber answered the voice over internet protocol call; and

~~an internet protocol multicast server operable to:~~

~~when the first subscriber answered the voice over internet protocol call, deliver the first notification message via the voice over internet protocol call; and~~

~~when the first subscriber did not answer the voice over internet protocol call,~~

a call log engine operable to, when the notification received mechanism determines that the first subscriber did not answer the voice over internet protocol call:

initiate a retry signal directing the voice over internet protocol switch to retry the first user via the voice over internet protocol telephone number; and

initiate an email message to the electronic mail address, wherein the email message includes the first notification message.

12-13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently amended) The notification system of claim 11, ~~further comprising: a~~ wherein the notification list ~~comprising the first group of subscribers to be notified in response to the first notification signal and~~ further comprises a second group of subscribers of the plurality of subscribers to be notified in response to a second notification signal; and

wherein the network interface is further operable to[[;]]:

receive the second notification signal; and

output a second trigger signal in response to receipt of the second notification signal.

15. (Previously presented) The notification system of claim 14, further comprising a second notification message to be provided to the second group of subscribers in response to receipt of the second notification signal.

16. (Previously presented) The notification system of claim 11, wherein the first notification signal is formatted in emergency alert system protocol.

17. (Currently amended) The notification system of claim 11, ~~further comprising a~~ wherein the call log engine is further operable to[[:]]

track a metric associated with delivery of the first notification message to each subscriber of the first group of subscribers~~; and~~

~~initiate a retry signal directing the voice over internet protocol switch to retry the first user via the voice over internet protocol telephone number when the first subscriber did not answer the voice over internet protocol call~~.

18. (Previously presented) The notification system of claim 11, further comprising a specialized ring tone signal communicated to customer premises equipment operable to play a specialized ring tone, the specialized ring tone signal identifying an incoming call associated with the first notification message.

19. (Canceled).

20. (Previously presented) The notification system of claim 11, wherein the contact information associated with the first subscriber further comprises at least one of an instant messaging address, an enhanced messaging service address, and a multimedia messaging service address.

21. (Previously presented) A method comprising:

maintaining contact information including a plurality of voice over internet protocol telephone numbers;

creating a notification list including a plurality of recipients, wherein each recipient of the plurality of recipients corresponds to a first voice over internet protocol telephone number included in the contact information;

associating the notification list with an event trigger;

saving a file representing a notification message associated with the event trigger;

in response to receipt of the event trigger, initiating a first call to the first voice over internet protocol telephone number corresponding to a first recipient of the notification list;

determining whether the first call is answered;

when the first call is answered:

passing the first call to an internet protocol multicast server; and

communicating the notification message via the first call using the internet protocol multicast server; and

when the first call is not answered:

retrying the first recipient via a second voice over internet protocol telephone number that is different from the first voice over internet protocol telephone number; and

initiating an email message to an electronic mail address associated with the first recipient, wherein the email message includes the notification message.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

creating a second notification list including a second plurality of recipients, wherein each recipient of the second plurality of recipients corresponds to a third voice over internet protocol telephone number included in the contact information; and

associating the second notification list with a second event trigger.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising creating the notification list based at least in part on a geographic location, wherein each recipient of the plurality of recipients resides in the geographic location.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising creating the notification list based at least in part on a demographic criterion common to the plurality of recipients.

25. (Original) The method of claim 21, wherein the file has a format selected from the group consisting of a .WAV file, a .MIDI file, and a .AU file.

26-27. (Canceled).

28. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~indicator~~ event trigger includes the notification message.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising, in response to determining that the first recipient did not answer the first call, initiating delivery of the notification message to a wireless communication device associated with the first recipient.

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 29, wherein the wireless communication device is a mobile telephone.

31. (Canceled).

32. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 31~~ claim 1, wherein the first telephone address is different from the second telephone address.

33. (Currently amended) The method of ~~claim 31~~ claim 1, wherein initiating the second call and initiating the email message occur ~~substantially~~ simultaneously.

34. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~indicator~~ event trigger includes a time period that the notification message is valid.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 21, wherein retrying the first recipient via the second voice over internet protocol telephone number occurs after expiration of a time interval subsequent to determining whether the first call is answered, wherein the time interval is randomly selected.